15: U.S. Navy —25 [3] (no date) 1944 Formosans
116, 191, 554, 662, 177.19 Japanese
636.19

"No information is available as to the standard used in determining knowledge of Japanese. Consequently the official figure of 45.6 percent may be an exaggeration. It is nevertheless true that the campaign to promote the use of Japanese has greatly intensified since the beginning of the China 'Incident' in 1937.

Various methods are used. Town and village police stations record the names of inhabitants considered conversant with Japanese. Periodical inspection of homes and oral questioning determines eligibility for the book. Whenever a Formosan needs recourse to the local authorities for licenses, business purposes, appeals, or other matters, reference is invariably made to the 'blue book'. If the applicant's name appears in the book, he is usually granted his request; if not, he is refused. Obviously there is room for graft and the shutting of official eyes in judging eligibility for the book. A foreigner with a wide acquaintance among Formosan-Chinese states that he knows of a number of instances where a man of some financial influence in the community is listed in the 'blue book' although his knowledge of Japanese is decidedly open to question. Nevertheless, it is understood that the system, only recently inaugurated, is producing results. Formosans have come to realize that without a listing in the book privileges and opportunities are denied."